

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 NIC-01 SAM-01 DRC-01 /136 W

----- 081764

R 021440Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3913

INFO AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMCONSUL JUANDA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAPE TOWN 0393

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI, PFOR, SF, US, AO, MZ

SUBJ: FOREIGN MINISTER EXPRESSES SAG CONCERN ABOUT  
COMMUNIST INFLUENCE OVER FUTURE GOVERNMENT IN  
MOZAMBIQUE

1. SUMMARY: SA FONMIN MULLER HAS EXPRESSED TO AMBASSADOR  
SAG'S DEEP CONCERN ABOUT POSSIBILITY THAT A MOZAMBIQUE  
GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED OR DOMINATED BY FRELIMO COULD BE  
INFLUENCED BY COMMUNIST POWERS TO OPEN MOZAMBIQUE PORTS TO  
THEIR WARSHIPS. MULLER ASKED AMBASSADOR TO CONVEY THIS  
EXPRESSION OF CONCERN TO WASHINGTON AND REQUESTED TO BE  
INFORMED OF USG'S THINKING ON THIS MATTER. END SUMMARY.

2. AT REQUEST OF FONMIN MULLER, AMBASSADOR MET WITH HIM  
AND FOREIGN SECRETARY FOURIE JULY 31. MULLER SAID DEVELOP-  
MENTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA IN GENERAL AND IN MOZAMBIQUE  
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IN PARTICULAR ARE OF CONCERN TO SAG. IT SEEMED ONLY A QUESTION

OF TIME BEFORE PORTUGUESE AFRICAN TERRITORIES BECAME INDEPENDENT, AND IT APPEARED INEVITABLE FRELIMO WOULD COME TO POWER IN MOZAMBIQUE.

3. SINCE COUP IN PORTUGAL, PRIME MINISTER VORSTER AND HE HAD EMPHASIZED THAT "SOUTH AFRICA EXTENDS THE HAND OF FRIENDSHIP TO ALL ITS NEIGHBORS, WHETHER THEY ARE BLACK OR WHITE." (FYI: STATE PRESIDENT FOUCHE MADE SAME POINT IN HIS ADDRESS AT OPENING SESSION OF SA PARLIAMENT AUGUST 2. END FYI.) SA READY TO WORK AMICABLY WITH WHOEVER IN CONTROL IN MOZAMBIQUE, BUT DOES NOT RPT NOT KNOW WHAT ATTITUDE OF FRELIMO-CONTROLLED GOVERNMENT WILL BE. SA HOPED NEW GOVERNMENT WOULD BE STABLE AND SELL-INTENTIONED, BUT IF IT TOOK AGGRESSIVE STEPS AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA, SAG WOULD REACT ACCORDINGLY.

4. SAG, MULLER SAID, IS WORRIED ABOUT INFLUENCE THAT COMMUNIST COUNTRIES HAVE WITH LIBERATION MOVEMENTS AND WONDERS IF COMMUNISTS WILL ENCOURAGE NEW BLACK-DOMINATED GOVERNMENTS IN MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA TO UNDERTAKE AGGRESSION AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA.

5. MULLER THEN GOT TO SPECIFIC POINT HE WANTED TO MAKE. SAG WORRIED, AND BELIEVED USG MAY SIMILARLY BE CONCERNED, ABOUT POSSIBILITY THAT MOZAMBIQUE PORTS WILL BE OPENED TO NAVAL VESSELS OF COMMUNIST POWERS. CABORA BASSA AND AVAILABILITY OF MOZAMBIQUE PORTS TO GOODS TO AND FROM SA ARE IMPORTANT TO SA, BUT NOT VITAL. FAR MORE IMPORTANT, AND CAUSING SAG DEEP CONCERN, IS POSSIBLE PRESENCE OF COMMUNIST NAVAL BASES IN LOURENCO MARQUES, BERIA, AND NACALA.

6. MULLER SAID THAT DURING HIS "USEFUL TALK" WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER A YEAR AGO, THE SECRETARY HAD SAID USG WATCHING SOUTHERN AFRICAN SITUATION CLOSELY AND WOULD GIVE IT EVEN MORE ATTENTION IF EVENTS WARRANTED. MULLER INTIMATED THAT PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES DID INDEED CALL FOR THE CLOSEST ATTENTION OF INTERESTED PARTIES. HE WANTED TO CONVEY TO WASHINGTON SAG'S CONCERN AND WOULD LIKE TO KNOW USG'S THOUGHTS REGARDING WHAT HE HAD CONVEYED TO AMBASSADOR.

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7. AMBASSADOR RESPONDED THAT SITUATION VERY FLUID IN PAT'S. HE RECOUNTED RECENT DEVELOPMENTS IN MOZAMBIQUE AND NOTED THAT APPARENTLY FRELIMO'S POSITION IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY STRONGER. HOWEVER, WE ARE UNSURE OF EXACTLY WHAT A FRELIMO-DOMINATED GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE WOULD BE TOWARD WEST, HOW RESPONSIVE IT WOULD BE TO COMMUNIST INFLUENCE AND WHAT IT MIGHT DO REGARDING MOZAMBIQUE PORTS. AMBASSADOR EMPHASIZED OUR LACK OF LEVERAGE WITH LIBERATION GROUPS, THEN SAID HE

UNDERSTOOD SOME BLACK AFRICAN LEADERS WERE COUNSELLING  
FRELIMO NOT TO LET THEMSELVES BECOME TOO DEPENDENT ON  
COMMUNISTS.

8. MULLER SAID HE HAD TALKED TO MALAWI'S PRESIDENT BANDA  
ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO. BANDA HAD TOLD HIM THAT NYERERE AND  
KAUNDA WERE "TRYING TO ADVISE" FRELIMO NOT TO MOVE TOO  
PRECIPITANTLY TOWARD TOTAL RELIANCE ON COMMUNISTS.  
HOWEVER, MULLER REITERATED TO AMBASSADOR THAT SITUATION  
IN PAT'S NEEDS TO BE GIVEN CLOSEST ATTENTION. HE EXPRESSED  
AGAIN HIS DESIRE TO PASS ON TO WASHINGTON SAG'S CONCERN  
ABOUT POSSIBILITY OF COMMUNIST BASES IN MOZAMBIQUE AND  
IMPLICATIONS THIS WOULD HAVE NOT ONLY FOR SOUTH AFRICA,  
BUT ALSO FOR CAPE SEA ROUTE AND FOR WESTERN INTERESTS IN  
INDIAN OCEAN. HURD.

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